



146.1275

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
F. MAKISHIMA et al
Serial No. 07/945,459
Filed: October 20, 1997
For: NOVEL PROTEIN...THE SAME

: D. Romeo
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: Group: 1646
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600 Third Avenue
New York N.Y. 10011
April 16, 1999

AMENDMENT

Asst. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the office action of January 5, 1999, please
amend this application as follows:

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APR 22 1999

IN THE ABSTRACT:

MATRIX CUSTOMER
SERVICE CENTER

Cancel the present Abstract and insert the Abstract submitted
herewith on a separate sheet of paper.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (amended) A protein [having] consisting of the amino
acid sequence in SEQ ID No: 1 [of the Sequence Listing].

Claim 2 (amended) A [homodimer] protein according to claim 1
wherein said protein is a homodimer.

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Claim 3 (amended) A pharmaceutical composition for treating
cartilage and/or bone disease comprising [a therapeutically
effective] an amount of the protein according to claim 2 effective
to treat cartilage and/or bone diseases and a pharmaceutical
carrier.

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A handwritten note on the right side of the page reads: "I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Patent and Trademark Office Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C."